

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 14 and 26-35 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 26 and 33 are amended herein. Claims 15-22 and 24-25 were previously canceled, and claim 23 is canceled herein. Claim 35 has been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

The Office Action notes that claims 9-10 and 23 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 9 and 10 depend from claim 7 (through claim 8). As a result, allowance of claim 7 should lead to allowance of claims 9 and 10. Claim 23 has been canceled herein (but may be resubmitted in a divisional application).

Claims 1-8, 11-14 and 26-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Bergner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,927,172, hereinafter "Bergner"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant has concurrently submitted a Statement of Common Ownership. As result, Bergner cannot be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Each of the claims has been amended to distinguish over Bergner. For example, claim 1 recites "forming a ring of organic material." Claim 7, which now includes the limitations of now canceled claim 13, recites that "said layer of resist comprises a positive resist, and said layer of resist is patterned by exposing said layer of resist except for said ring of resist and then removing an exposed portion of said resist." Claim 26 recites that "the ring of material is deposited onto the periphery region without a lithographic step."

Claim 35 has been added herein. No new matter is added. Claim 35 specifically recites "after removing the further layer of resist, etching at least one trench region," which is not anticipated by Bergner.

Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Ira S. Matsil, Applicants' attorney, at 972-732-1001 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. A fee in the amount of \$120.00 for a one-month extension of time is believed due in connection with this filing. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1065 for this fee. No other fee is believed due in connection with this filing. However, should one be deemed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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